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In a taluk in a non-block area, 50 per cent of the allotment is given to the Co-operative Societies and the other 50 per cent to the other distributors. In Community Development and National Extension Service blocks, the Co-operative Societies alone distribute the fertilisers.

Prevention of slaughter of cows and bulls

* 539 *Q*.—Sri A. A. RASHEED (on behalf of Sri V. Sankaran) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state what steps the Government propose to take in view of the judgment of the Full Bench of the Supreme Court on 23rd April 1958, upholding the prevention of slaughter of cows and calves and useful bulls and bullocks?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The Madras Animal Preservation Act, 1958 (Act X of 1958) has been passed with the object of preserving useful animals by controlling their slaughter.

Legislation to prevent cow-slaughter

* 539-B *Q*.—Sri A. A. RASHEED (on behalf of Sri V. Sankaran) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Central Government had sent a draft Bill in 1953 or 1954 to the Madras Government for enacting legislation to prevent cow-slaughter;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the said Bill, will be placed on the table of the House; and

(*c*) what action has been taken by this Government to implement the same?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes. A copy of the model Bill for the preservation of certain animals by controlling their slaughter was received from the Government of India in November 1953.

(*b*) No. As the draft model Bill forms part of a communication received from the Government of India, their approval would be necessary to place the Bill on the table of the House.

(*c*) The Madras Animal Preservation Act, 1958 (Madras Act X of 1958), is based on this model Bill.

Sri A. A. RASHEED : May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the animal population would exceed the human population very soon unless they are allowed to be slaughtered?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I may tell the hon. Member that the animal population does not exceed the human population, in the country. There are 17 crores of cattle, 10 crores of chickens and poultry and another 10 crores of sheep so much so we have only about 40 crores of these in India.

Mr. SPEAKER : Questions are over.